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26 August 1961

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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[Redacted]

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*Soviet Bloc: Rumanian President Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej has told the US chargé in Bucharest that he plans to "visit New York" this fall. This suggests that he will attend the UN General Assembly session, which begins on 19 September. Since he probably would not attend unless other bloc leaders also participated, this remark may be a trial balloon to determine US reaction to a possible visit by Khrushchev. Last fall, bloc officials made several hints of this kind in diplomatic circles before they openly announced that they would attend the UN General Assembly. Moscow may feel that Khrushchev's presence at the UN could lead to a second meeting with President Kennedy and provide an opportunity to arrange subsequent Four Power negotiations over Berlin. Gheorghiu-Dej also stressed that Moscow's position on negotiations over Berlin was "entirely flexible" and that ways could be found for both sides to save prestige.

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France: [There are indications that General Jean Olié, who became chief of the French National Defense Staff in March, may soon leave the post. He had been relatively close to De Gaulle, but recently they have been rumored at odds over Algerian policy. Olié's early departure could adversely affect De Gaulle's relationship with the armed services.] One of the key elements in the armed forces' acquiescence in De Gaulle's policies, particularly on Algeria, is the personal prestige of the Defense Staff chief. Olié's predecessor, General Paul Ely, had been retained in the position for nearly three years after his normal retirement age because of the difficulty of finding a successor acceptable both to De Gaulle and the armed forces.

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Dominican Republic: President Balaguer's address to the Dominican Congress on 24 August is likely at least temporarily to strengthen his position vis a vis the Dominican military officers who have been demanding a restoration of dictatorial government. The President re-emphasized his commitment

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DAILY BRIEF

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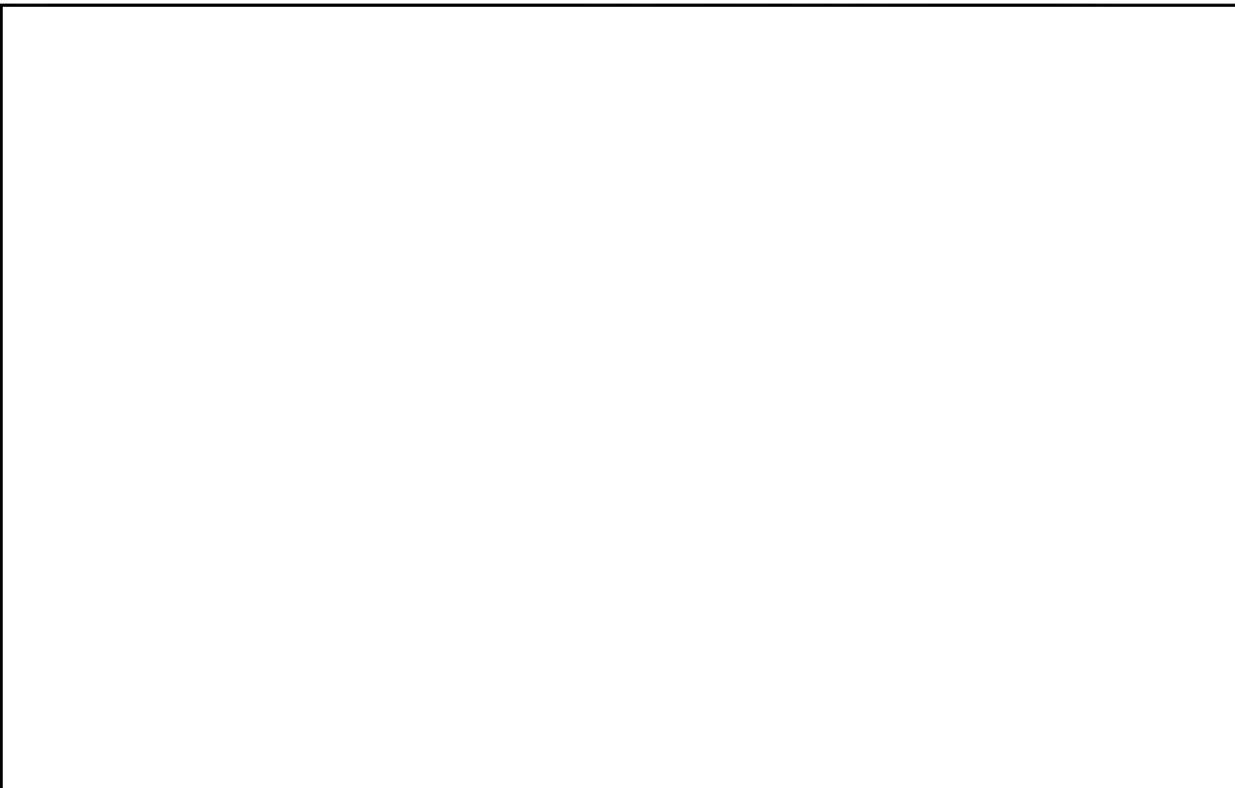
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to progressive democratization, appealed to all Dominicans for restraint, and demanded that Congress either give him its unreserved support or accept the resignation of his entire government. On 25 August, Congress expressed its support for the President. [Despite evidence of the past week that General Ramfis Trujillo has been swayed by the officers who are pressing for Balaguer's replacement by a military regime, Balaguer repeatedly associated Ramfis with his objectives and specifically included him among those who would resign if Congress repudiated the President's program. This tactic probably derives from Balaguer's estimate that he cannot remain in power without the backing of Ramfis, who he feels is the only man now able to control the armed forces.]

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DAILY BRIEF

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Chief of French National Defense Staff May Leave Post

Olié has been absent from the last two meetings of the Defense Committee, and there are rumors that a rift between him and De Gaulle has been developing, particularly over Algeria. A National Defense Staff liaison officer recently told the US air attaché that Olié had been excused because of fatigue, and

[redacted] the absence was due to ill health.

[redacted] Olié was not up to strains of his present position and that the possibility of his leaving soon could "not be excluded."

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Olié has been considered completely loyal to De Gaulle, which probably explains both his selection as De Gaulle's personal military adviser in early 1960 and his nomination to his present post this year. While he was still military adviser, however, one report concerning attitudes of senior army officers following the bloody Moslem-European clashes in Algeria last December noted that he was "also dissatisfied, but extremely moderate in his statements."

Olié's predecessor was credited with closing the ranks of the armed services behind De Gaulle in 1958 and of preventing the development of overt disunity subsequently. The fact that the April military mutiny occurred shortly after Ely stepped down indicates both De Gaulle's increasingly precarious control over some elements of the military and the difficulty of finding a successor both willing and able to command obedience.

Since July, when Olié and the individual service chiefs of staff were reported unhappy over De Gaulle's bypassing them in handling the Bizerte crisis personally, there have been several reports of Olié's dissatisfaction.

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[redacted] There have been subsequent reports of increasing military unhappiness over Algeria, particularly over De Gaulle's decision to move a second army division to Europe.

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The Situation in the Dominican Republic

The most immediate requirements for stability in the Dominican Republic are greater restraint on the part of opposition elements and the re-establishment of control over the police and military to prevent continued reprisals against the opposition. Only a few hours before President Balaguer's address to Congress, a procession of several thousand oppositionists in the capital city was attacked without provocation by armed thugs backed up by uniformed police. Whether this and recent bloodier incidents in the interior reflect the actions of individual officers on the scene or a directive from Ramfis Trujillo is uncertain. In any event, Ramfis might have trouble if he should attempt to restrain his subordinates from further reprisals. Although there are some high-caliber officers in the Dominican military, many others are semi-literate, have no concept of the role of the armed forces in a democracy, and are convinced that they have everything to lose from Balaguer's democratization program.

In his address to Congress, which was broadcast to the public, Balaguer declared his conviction that the government that replaces his after the elections scheduled for next year must be a coalition government employing "capable men without regard to the position they adopted during the past regime." He stated that "reactionary forces," within the government and the official Dominican party, are "systematically opposing any reform that might endanger the leading position that they have held for the past 30 years." He warned "these influential figures" that they will have to "drown the country in blood if they attempt to remain in power against the will of the people." He said he will resign if Dominican progress is delayed by "the brutality of police action and the excesses of repressive violence." He sought to absolve the armed forces from blame for events during the 30 years in which "all moral and legal responsibility" was assumed by "the great man in power." He appealed for restraint on the part of the opposition and urged all Dominicans to look to the future, not the past.

Balaguer's forthright address will win him stronger backing from the moderate opposition leaders of the widely backed National Civic Union, which has heretofore adopted a reserved

position toward him. The President's rallying of support from the public will further reduce the chance that a military regime could consolidate its power after removing the present government. A military coup would probably lead to extensive revolutionary counteraction, the factionalization of the armed forces, and enhanced opportunities for Communists and pro-Communists.

On 24 August, President Balaguer asked the American consulate to make the necessary arrangements for the travel through the United States on 27 August of the late dictator's widow and several of her grandchildren and other relatives who are going to Europe. [redacted]

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Executive Offices of the White House

Special Counsel to the President

Military Representative of the President

The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

The Scientific Adviser to the President

The Director of the Budget

The Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization

The Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Chairman, Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board

The Department of State

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Director, International Cooperation Administration

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Administration

The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Under Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)

The Assistant to Secretary of Defense (Special Operations)

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy

Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

U.S. Rep., Military Committee and Standing Group, NATO

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

The Director, The Joint Staff

The Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

The Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

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